

Frequently Asked Questions About The Utah Basic Skills Competency Test

WHAT SUBJECTS WILL BE TESTED?

The Utah Basic Skills Competency Test measures concepts in reading, writing, and mathematics drawn from the Utah State Core Curriculum. The test measures only "basic skills" as defined by the State Board of Education.

WHY DO STUDENTS NEED TO TAKE THE BASIC SKILLS COMPETENCY TEST?

Students must pass each section of the test in order to receive a "basic high school diploma." Once a section is passed, it does not need to be retaken.

WHAT IF A STUDENT DOES NOT PASS PART OF THE TEST?

The test will contain three sections, covering three subject areas: reading, writing, and mathematics. Students will have multiple opportunities to retake any section of the test as needed.

WHEN WILL THE TEST BE ADMINISTERED?

Students will take the test first during the spring of their tenth grade year.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL THE TEST TAKE?

Total testing time will be approximately four to six hours.

WHAT ABOUT STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS?

Accommodations will be allowed for students with an IEP, 504 plan, or those who are designated LEP.

WHEN WILL THIS TAKE EFFECT?

The class of 2006 will be the first graduating class to be affected by the implementation of the test. Students in the class of 2006 will be required to pass all three sections of the test in order to receive a "basic high school diploma."